



**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.8**

I certify that this Preliminary Amendment Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.8 is being transmitted via facsimile to (703) 308-8724, on:

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By Kristin Cope

PATENT

6P 1655  
13/C  
B/Weber  
5/14/01

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND  
TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): John F. Stone

Docket No.: 36435.0100

Serial No.: 09/498,135

Filed: February 4, 2000

Examiner: Goldberg, J.

Title: CHROMOSOME-BASED METHOD FOR  
FACILITATING DISEASE DIAGNOSIS

Group Art  
Unit: 1655

**RECEIVED**

Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

MAY 02 2001

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Dear Sir:

Prior to continued examination of the above-identified Continuing Prosecution  
Application, please enter the following amendments:

**In the Claims**

Please amend claims 1, 8- 11, and 16-17 as follows.

*SubD1* 1. (Thrice Amended) A method suitable for facilitating disease diagnosis, the method comprising the steps of:

exposing cells of a patient, suspected of having a disease for which chromosome damage is diagnostic, to a chromosome damaging agent selected to damage chromosomes within the nuclei of the cells to produce chromosome fragments having broken ends;

marking at least some of the broken ends; and

analyzing the marked broken ends within interphase cell nuclei to determine whether the cells were affected by the disease, wherein said analyzing includes comparing